TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL PLANNING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: : TRANSCRIPT

:

Application No. 19-13P : OF

PRISM MILLINGTON, LLC

50 Division Avenue : PROCEEDINGS

Blocks 12301/10100, Lots 1/7.01 :

Major Preliminary and

Final Site Plan :

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 Zoom Remote Hearing Commencing at 8:42 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

DAVID HANDS, Chairman BRENDAN RAE, Mayor JOHN FALVEY VICTOR VERLEZZA TOM MALINOUSKY J. ALAN PFEIL DENNIS SANDOW

APPEARANCES:

JOLANTA MAZIARZ, ESQUIRE Attorneys for the Board

DECOTIIS, FITZPATRICK, COLE & GIBLIN, LLP BY: FRANCIS REGAN, ESQUIRE Attorneys for the Applicant

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    ALSO PRESENT:
         DEBRA COONCE, Planning & Zoning Board Coordinator
 2
         ELIZABETH LEHENY, Township Planner
 3
         MICHAEL LANZAFAMA, Board Engineer
 4
         ROBERT FOURNIADIS, (Previously sworn)
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1 (The Board hears Agenda Items.)
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- 2 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Okay. Back to the Major
- 3 Preliminary and site plan -- Final Site Plan
- 4 application from Prism, formerly known as Tifa.
- 5 MR. RICHARDSON: I'm signing off, Dave.
- 6 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Oh, yes. Thank you for
- 7 coming. We do the Special meetings just so we can see
- 8 you. (Laughter).
- 9 So, Frank, I think would I hand it to you
- 10 first in a second, or --
- MR. REGAN: Sure.
- 12 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Just remind us where we
- 13 are.
- 14 MR. REGAN: I think where we left it was
- 15 that there were some questions I think from members of
- 16 the public and I think from one of the Board members
- for our engineer, Jeff Martell, who I think is gone to
- 18 another meeting, I thought 15 minutes he had done that,
- 19 but I see him on the screen. So I was hoping we can
- 20 start with him so we can dispose of him so he can move
- 21 on.
- 22 CHAIRMAN HANDS: That's fine. Thank you.
- 23 Jeff, do you know where you wanted to pick up from
- 24 discussions the last time or --
- MR. REGAN: No, I think it was more --

- 1 there was questions, Mr. Chairman. I think Mr. Sandow
- 2 had a question or questions and then I think there were
- 3 two or three members of the public that had questions
- 4 of the engineer.
- 5 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Just so -- I couldn't find
- 6 my note, but I think Bill Kaufman had some questions.
- 7 Christina who I also see on the meeting, and Chuck who
- 8 I see has his hand raised. So I see Bill, Christina
- 9 and Chuck here. So thank you for reminding me. I just
- 10 found my notes as to who is wishing to speak.
- 11 So with that said, should we hand it over
- 12 to the members of the public, Deb?
- 13 COORDINATOR COONCE: Sure. I will start
- 14 with Mr. Arentowicz.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: Can you hear me all?
- 16 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Hardly, Chuck. Speak a
- 17 little bit louder, please?
- 18 MR. ARENTOWICZ: Sure. Let me turn this
- 19 up. Is that better?
- 20 CHAIRMAN HANDS: That's better. Thank you.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: Okay. Mr. Martell --
- THE REPORTER: Excuse me. Mr. Can you
- 23 please state your full name? This is the Court
- 24 Reporter.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: Sure. Charles Arentowicz,

- 1 A-r-e-n-t-o-w-i-c-z.
- 2 Mr. Martell, what is the highest height of
- 3 this hill into the developable area?
- 4 JEFFREY MARTELL, having been previously
- 5 sworn, testifies as follows:
- THE WITNESS: The highest height of the
- 7 fill, like at the ground surface?
- 8 MR. ARENTOWICZ: Bring in there -- that's
- 9 correct. It goes, I assume, from one inch to X number?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Right. I understand the
- 11 question. Just looking around the plan. It's about
- 12 17 feet.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: And where is that highest
- 14 17-foot on the property?
- 15 THE WITNESS: It's really in a very small
- 16 are on the southwest corner on the Stone House Road
- 17 frontage.
- 18 MR. ARENTOWICZ: Could you relate it to one
- 19 of the buildings, so is it by Building 6?
- THE WITNESS: Correct. Keep in mind, Stone
- 21 House Road drops about 24 feet.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: I'm well aware of that.
- THE WITNESS: So Building 8 is anywhere
- 24 from five -- 2 to 5 feet below the road and then
- 25 Building 6 is where the fill is, and that's in the

- 1 southwest corner.
- 2 MR. ARENTOWICZ: Okay. At your current
- 3 estimate what's the amount of fill required for this
- 4 site, assuming cubic yards?
- 5 THE WITNESS: About 21,800, which I will
- 6 probably say is a high number, but as we discussed at
- 7 the last meeting I wanted to represent a conservative
- 8 number that doesn't assume any value engineering or
- 9 reuse of any of the demolition materials which would
- 10 reduce that number if that were to be the case, but we
- 11 wanted to represent a conservative number for the
- 12 purpose of the presentation.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: So 21,800 does that
- 14 include replacing some of that, for example, floorings
- in the demolition, are you going to take out some of
- 16 the soil below the pavement across the lot right now.
- 17 THE WITNESS: That is after demolition
- 18 whatever voids would be created by demolition, so if
- 19 you remove the foundation it would create a void. So
- 20 it assumes filling in any of those voids and then it
- 21 also displaced anything in the proposed condition. So
- 22 trenches, proposed foundations, what have you. The
- 23 number I gave you is a soil number. On the exhibit we
- 24 presented we also itemized all of the demolition or
- 25 construction materials as well.

- 1 MR. ARENTOWICZ: Just to confirm what was
- 2 said at the last meeting, if I'm on the lowest slope on
- 3 Stone House Road as you said by Building 6 where you've
- 4 got 17 feet of fill, to get to the height of your
- 5 45-foot Building 6 are we I think it was mentioned
- 6 65 feet; is that correct?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Well, what was mentioned was
- 8 the grade around the bottom of Building 6 to the road
- 9 is 20 feet, and then, right, you added the building
- 10 height another 45 feet. But everybody's just got to
- 11 keep in mind Stone House Road drops 25 feet. So
- 12 Building 8 actually sits 2-feet lower or 5-feet lower
- 13 than Division. The retail building sits several feet
- 14 lower than the road. So what you have is you have a
- 15 25-foot drop on Stone House Road where it's not
- 16 feasible to step the buildings down 25 feet. So it's
- 17 basically a safe plateau at the high side and creates
- 18 the condition you're describing on Building 6.
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: So for some reason, and
- 20 I'll just make a comment and if Mr. Rae wants to make a
- 21 comment he certainly can, I'm concerned that if, for
- 22 example, we had a fire incident in Building 6 and for
- 23 some reason we couldn't get to the property through
- 24 your pathways into your site and we had to put the fire
- 25 truck on Stone House Road and we've got I think a

- 1 75-foot ladder truck and we're in the middle of that
- 2 road and that's the closest we can get, we've got a
- 3 30-foot setback I'm not sure if it was in the roof of
- 4 that building we could fire -- effectively fight that
- 5 fire.
- If no one wants to respond I just raise it
- 7 as a concern for those people in Building 6, given the
- 8 height difference and given our 75-foot ladder truck.
- 9 THE WITNESS: My understand was that was a
- 10 comment, but we would defer the fire -- Official's fire
- 11 department. I don't think they've commented on that,
- 12 so --
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: Thank you. That's all I
- 14 have for tonight.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you.
- 17 COORDINATOR COONCE: Next we have Bill
- 18 Kaufman.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Hello.
- 20 COORDINATOR COONCE: Bill?
- MR. KAUFMAN: Yes, I'm here. William
- 22 Kaufman, K-a-u-f-m-a-n. Just a follow up, Mr. Martell,
- 23 on something that Mr. Arentowicz had mentioned on this
- 24 subject. Are you familiar with the section of the
- 25 ordinance that has the definitions in it? Specifically

- 1 there's one LU-111 height of building?
- THE WITNESS: It's been a while since I've
- 3 read it, but I believe it's based on the grade around
- 4 the -- the height of the building that's measured from
- 5 the grade around the building itself is my
- 6 recollection.
- 7 MR. KAUFMAN: That's a good paraphrase.
- 8 Are you familiar with the term "highest adjacent
- 9 grade," which is the definition listed directly beneath
- 10 the definition for height of building? I can quote it
- 11 for you.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes. I couldn't recite it.
- MR. KAUFMAN: It states and I quote, "The
- 14 highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior
- 15 to construction next to the proposed walls of the
- 16 structure."
- So my question is, in your experience or
- 18 why do you -- are you familiar with this type of
- 19 language, and why do you think ordinances have
- 20 provisions or definitions for highest adjacent grade?
- 21 THE WITNESS: I mean, I don't think that's
- 22 a fair question necessarily to ask. It would be up to
- 23 each person who wrote the ordinance and what their
- 24 intent was. I couldn't summarily make an assessment of
- 25 that question.

- 1 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, what do you interpret
- 2 it to mean when you say highest adjacent grade and it
- 3 states the "Highest natural elevation of the ground
- 4 surface prior to construction next to the proposed
- 5 walls and structure"?
- 6 THE WITNESS: I think the answer to the
- 7 question is exactly what you just said. Aren't you
- 8 stating the definition?
- 9 MR. KAUFMAN: Well, I am, I'm just
- 10 asking -- my question has to do with, I want to
- 11 understand why as a professional engineer if you've
- 12 come across this language before, and just for the
- 13 Board's and laymen what is it used for? In your
- 14 experience, how do you interpret it or how to you apply
- 15 it to site design?
- THE WITNESS: I think it's for everybody to
- 17 interpret themselves. I mean, that's not the way the
- 18 building height is defined in this ordinance. I
- 19 haven't -- I really don't understand what you're really
- 20 asking me to do.
- MR. KAUFMAN: I'm not asking you to do
- 22 anything. I mean, do they put those provisions in
- 23 there to prevent essentially piling dirt up around the
- 24 buildings in an attempt to conform -- you know, to keep
- 25 --

- 1 THE WITNESS: I don't write zoning
- 2 ordinances. I don't write zoning laws. I engineer
- 3 plans and I look at ordinances written by others.
- 4 MR. REGAN: I think he indicated he doesn't
- 5 know how to respond to it.
- 6 MR. KAUFMAN: Okay. It's a definition in
- 7 the ordinance and I think it's relevant to what Mr.
- 8 Arentowicz was trying to point out. And the question
- 9 really is, what is the height of the natural elevation,
- 10 or what the highest adjacent grade using the definition
- 11 in our Land Use Ordinance at the southwest corner of
- 12 the development basically where you were stating where
- 13 it intersects Stone House Road right to the south of
- 14 the devising line between the restricted area and the
- 15 development. I mean, would you say that's elevation
- 16 240, or approximately elevation 240?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Down by the road it's about
- 18 240, 241, yeah, directly. I've tried to answer every
- 19 question that's been asked of me. Just understanding
- 20 --
- MR. KAUFMAN: I'm not holding you to an
- 22 inch. I just --
- 23 THE WITNESS: On the west side it's about
- 24 246 directly if you true a line on the plain in the
- 25 building closest to Stone House directly west it would

- 1 be 246, if you went down to the road it's about 240.
- 2 MR. KAUFMAN: So just to cut to the chase,
- 3 there's a lot of points I'm sure you want to get into,
- 4 other people want to get in. The southwest corner
- 5 looking up at Building 6 we heard testimony from you
- 6 and from Mr. Alberto that the finished floor elevation
- 7 is around 263, so then 45 feet above that would be
- 8 elevation 308. So that's somewhere between 65 and
- 9 75 feet, or 65 and 70 feet above the natural elevation,
- 10 natural grade elevation prior to development and the
- 11 finished elevation of the street. So to your knowledge
- 12 is there any experience or any condition that you can
- 13 relate to or help the Board to digest within the
- 14 township or the surrounding townships or anywhere that
- 15 would even come close do this kind of a 70-foot tall,
- 16 100-foot wide building that fronts a side street like
- 17 that? I mean is there something that we can point to
- 18 on the board?
- I know that the members of the public had
- 20 asked the applicant to provide a rendering depicting
- 21 what that might look like and they refused to do it.
- 22 But are you aware of any condition in Millington or
- 23 Long Hill that would have something similar to that?
- 24 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of anything in
- 25 Long Hill, no. I mean I'm sure we're all generally

- 1 from this part of New Jersey and there's other projects
- 2 in northern, central Jersey that have similar
- 3 conditions but I'm not aware of one in Long Hill
- 4 Township, no.
- 5 MR. KAUFMAN: Could I ask the Chair if an
- 6 exhibit that I posted could be presented?
- 7 COORDINATOR COONCE: Well, Bill, what are
- 8 you -- are you testifying? Because this is not the
- 9 time to testify. This is for questions.
- 10 MR. KAUFMAN: Okay. I can save it for
- 11 later. I just thought we can use it for reference.
- 12 That's fine. We can wait till later. That's my last
- 13 question. Thank you, Mr. Martell.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MAYOR RAE: Actually, could it be used just
- 16 to illustrate some of those questions?
- 17 COORDINATOR COONCE: Jolanta?
- MS. MAZIARZ: Well, it depends on what it
- 19 is, because if we're going to start testifying with
- 20 regard to exhibits we're going to have to mark it as an
- 21 exhibit and then we're going to have to swear in Mr.
- 22 Kaufman and take testimony. I don't think we're there
- 23 yet. I think we should continue with the line of
- 24 questioning and if Mr. Kaufman would like to present
- 25 something that should come during testimony.

- 1 MAYOR RAE: No. I was just wondering,
- 2 Jolanta, if it would illustrate some of the points that
- 3 Mr. Kaufman was making rather than, you know, rather
- 4 than add testimony. And if we can't do that then, if
- 5 we've crossed the lane then that's okay. But it's more
- 6 to just he obviously was trying to make a point and I
- 7 thought this may be illustrative and it would help the
- 8 Board members, but if we're crossing any territory that
- 9 we can't then that's okay.
- 10 MS. MAZIARZ: I think the operative phrase
- 11 there is making a point. If you're making a point then
- we need to swear people who are making points and have
- 13 them testify, because that's what's going to end up
- 14 happening I fear here. So let's limit it to testimony
- 15 and later on if Mr. Kaufman has testimony along these
- lines, well, then the applicant is going to have an
- opportunity later to bring back the applicant's
- 18 engineer and to rebut any of this testimony that's
- 19 going to be brought by any members of the public.
- If the applicant's attorney disagrees with
- 21 me and would like to start doing this now please let me
- 22 know, but I really would prefer not to muddy the water
- 23 between questioning and testimony.
- MR. REGAN: I agree with you not to.
- MS. MAZIARZ: Okay.

- 1 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Just by reference then,
- 2 the document is on the web site, so by reference people
- 3 can view it.
- 4 COORDINATOR COONCE: So next I'm going to
- 5 bring Pam Ogens. Pam, are you there?
- 6 MS. OGENS: I am here. Thank you very
- 7 much.
- 8 Several meetings ago, actually it was the
- 9 July 14th meeting, there was some discussion with Mr.
- 10 Martell that centered around density. There was
- 11 discussion with Mr. Caputo and then Mr. Martell. And
- in that discussion, Mr. Martell, you said you're going
- 13 to hear from Mr. Steckler.
- 14 Who is Mr. Steckler and when will he give
- 15 expert testimony?
- MR. REGAN: Jeff, I'll respond. It's
- 17 Matthew Steckler. He's the traffic engineer and he's
- 18 already testified.
- 19 MS. OGENS: I would have to check that out.
- 20 I'll take your word for it, but he didn't address
- 21 density which apparently was the question.
- MR. REGAN: What specifically was the
- 23 question and maybe we can try to answer it for you?
- 24 I'm not sure -- I think you're correct, he may not have
- 25 been the right person to answer it, but his testimony

- 1 was focused on traffic and parking.
- 2 MS. OGENS: Yes. This was discussion
- 3 around the cramped environment and the lack of green
- 4 open space.
- 5 MR. REGAN: I'm not sure that he would have
- 6 been the person that would have testified to that. I
- 7 mean, I think --
- 8 MS. OGENS: So then that would be the
- 9 architect?
- 10 MR. REGAN: I'm not sure what the specific
- 11 question is.
- MS. OGENS: I think we'll just leave it
- 13 then for public comment session and take it from there
- 14 since the density question was directed to Mr. Steckler
- 15 with regard to traffic only; is that correct.
- MR. REGAN: I'm not sure.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I don't know what the
- 18 question was. I mean, we comply with the density
- 19 requirement, we comply with the coverage requirement.
- 20 So I don't recall deferring a "density question" on
- 21 something related to coverage to Mr. Steckler. If it
- 22 was based on the number of units and somehow traffic
- 23 going on and off I would have deferred it, but unless
- 24 you want to ask the question again I'm happy to answer
- 25 it, but as far as the ordinance I don't see any element

- 1 of this site that's cramped.
- MS. OGENS: I do see a response and it
- 3 complied with the ordinance in the zoning. And the
- 4 question with Mr. Steckler now I believe was with
- 5 regard to traffic only.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Got it. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Pam, are you good?
- MS. OGENS: Uh-huh.
- 9 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you so much.
- 10 COORDINATOR COONCE: Moving along we'll go
- 11 to Christina Berquist.
- MS. BERQUIST: Good evening. I have a
- 13 question for Mr. Martell. I would like you to
- 14 elaborate on the soil movement plan that you mentioned
- 15 at your last meeting -- I mean, at your last testimony
- 16 during the last meeting. Could you -- I'm not really
- familiar with exactly what is entailed in a soil
- 18 movement plan. I was hoping you could outline more to
- 19 what kind of activities it encompasses and what
- 20 sequences. I mean, obviously in a rough kind of idea,
- 21 but --
- 22 THE WITNESS: Understood. The Board asked
- 23 us to prepare this, so we did. It's not necessarily a
- 24 document that is always accompanied with a site plan,
- 25 but in this case there was a question about it and a

- 1 request, so we prepared what we call a soil movement
- 2 exhibit that basically in numerical form described the
- 3 change in grade, either in a plus or minus fashion, in
- 4 the number of feet across the site in a grid format,
- 5 and then did calculations relative to demolition
- 6 materials and construction materials in order to
- 7 understand and quantify, in this case the amount of
- 8 soil that would be brought to the site to construct the
- 9 facility.
- 10 MS. BERQUIST: Well, last time I recall I
- 11 think you said something like the soil movement plan or
- 12 the soil movement would be estimated anywhere from four
- 13 to -- I missed the exact number, but how many months
- 14 did you say?
- 15 THE WITNESS: Three to four.
- 16 MS. BERQUIST: Three to four months?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes, for the majority of the
- 18 work.
- 19 MS. BERQUIST: So what actions are
- 20 encompassed in this soil movement plan?
- 21 THE WITNESS: The plan is just to quantify
- 22 the amount, the sequence of construction. It doesn't
- 23 necessarily detail the sequence of construction, it's
- 24 just a plan to quantify the amount of material coming
- on and off the site. But generally speaking the

- 1 buildings would be demolished, the pavement would be
- 2 removed. The earthwork would be completed, and then
- 3 they would start the building and site work for the
- 4 proposed development.
- 5 MS. BERQUIST: When you're saying the soil
- 6 would be prepared does this entail moving it around to
- 7 make it all level and all that, I'm guessing?
- 8 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 9 MS. BERQUIST: So I know last time you said
- 10 that soil in your plan was going to be, you know,
- 11 stipulation that soil was going to be brought in, and
- 12 then Mr. Lanzafama suggested reusing some of the
- 13 material from the demolition as fill; is that correct?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Well, if he suggested it per
- 15 se, he said that that was a possibility, which I agree
- 16 with common practice. We didn't quantify it that way
- 17 but there's a good chance that that does occur and that
- 18 would just reduce the amount of soil that would have to
- 19 be brought to the site.
- MS. BERQUIST: But is it fair to assume
- 21 that it would increase the amount of soil movement that
- 22 occurs on the site?
- THE WITNESS: It would decrease the amount.
- 24 If we reused the materials on-site it would decrease
- 25 the amount of movement of soil and the amount of import

- 1 of soil.
- 2 MS. BERQUIST: But you're going to have to
- 3 be moving those pieces from one place to another,
- 4 right?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Right. But we already
- 6 assumed we were doing that anyway. So essentially if
- 7 we were going to remove the material from the site, or
- 8 if we were going to reuse it that's essentially
- 9 redundant activity and then it would reduce the amount
- 10 of soil it would have to bring in and the amount of
- 11 soil activity.
- MS. BERQUIST: I mean, from where I see it
- 13 maybe the actions might be redundant, but I am quite
- 14 concerned that we're dealing with contaminated soil and
- 15 fill and moving it around even more than, you know,
- 16 taking it off the site and handling it as little as
- 17 possible seems more sensible under these conditions?
- 18 THE WITNESS: There are parameters that
- 19 they would have to comply with so you can't reuse
- 20 materials that have been subject to, you know, certain
- 21 contaminants. So the LSRP would have to agree and
- 22 approve anything that were to be reused and any soil
- 23 that would be brought to the site we agreed would be
- 24 certified clean soil. So I don't think there's an
- 25 environmental concern relative to this soil movement.

- 1 MS. BERQUIST: So can you qualify then what
- 2 the -- just give me an outline of what the parameters
- 3 would be?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Parameters for what?
- 5 MS. BERQUIST: For reusing that fill?
- 6 THE WITNESS: The laws of the state of New
- 7 Jersey and the LSRP dictate.
- 8 MS. BERQUIST: So would that mean that the
- 9 LSRP has to be on-site checking this?
- 10 THE WITNESS: The LSRP is responsible for
- 11 --
- MR. FOURNIADIS: Didn't the we spend a lot
- 13 of time talking about this?
- MS. BERQUIST: Well, I don't know. I mean,
- 15 I'm asking the expert on this, so clearly I didn't feel
- 16 that it's been addressed because otherwise I wouldn't
- 17 be asking.
- 18 MR. FOURNIADIS: He's not the LSRP.
- MS. BERQUIST: I understand that, but
- 20 you're refusing to bring back the LSRP. And when the
- 21 LSRP was there and he was asked specifically about that
- 22 he specified that he's not aware of any asbestos
- 23 containing soil standards in New Jersey. And now we're
- 24 saying we might be suggesting moving the soil around
- 25 even more that --

- 1 THE WITNESS: Let's just back up one
- 2 second. Let's just back up one second. The soil
- 3 movement plan that was submitted does not assume reuse
- 4 of any construction materials. The soil movement
- 5 exhibit was submitted in order to give the Board an
- 6 understanding of the earthwork on the project and what
- 7 I characterize as a conservative assessment meaning
- 8 that the amount of soil that we're calculating is
- 9 probably a little high, but for the purpose of a
- 10 Planning Board presentation we didn't want to risk
- 11 being low and then having more material.
- So we've given a conservative assessment,
- 13 whether materials are reused or not the movement
- 14 exhibit comment on that either way, if it can be done
- in the confines of the law and with the approval of the
- 16 LSRP who has oversight on the project then it
- 17 physically can be done. If that were to be the case
- 18 then it would reduce the amount of soil that would be
- 19 imported to the site. So I think that's the answer,
- 20 period, end sentence relative to the soil movement.
- 21 Anything else in terms of environmental I would not be
- 22 answer to answer.
- MS. BERQUIST: So as far as bringing in
- 24 21,000 cubic feet of soil or fill how much are you
- 25 estimating to take out?

- 1 THE WITNESS: We don't estimate to take out
- 2 soil because it's a site where we need to raise the
- 3 grade. So we don't plan to remove soil, we plan to
- 4 just bring soil in to supplement what's there to create
- 5 a safe grade for the project.
- 6 MS. BERQUIST: Is anything going to be
- 7 taken out? I mean, maybe not soil but rubble or I
- 8 don't know what it would be called?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes. Construction debris
- 10 would be probably taken out and that's itemized on the
- 11 plan as well.
- MS. BERQUIST: So how much are you roughly
- 13 talking on that end?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Well, we only itemize below
- 15 the ground. I didn't quantify anything above the
- 16 ground so, I don't have an estimate for the total
- 17 demolition debris.
- 18 MS. BERQUIST: So, it's very hard for me to
- 19 conceptualize that because what I see there right now
- 20 is quite massive the structures that are there. So --
- 21 and maybe my confusion is because I'm not, you know,
- 22 this is not my subject area so I'm not necessarily
- 23 understanding each detail of this. So am I
- 24 understanding correctly that when you're talking about
- 25 fill being brought in that's separate, like it's a

- 1 separate thing from the material, the building material
- 2 that's currently there?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Correct. That soil being
- 4 brought in.
- 5 MS. BERQUIST: So the building material
- 6 that's currently there or the buildings, the structures
- 7 that are currently there aren't included in your soil
- 8 movement plan? I mean, just by nature of them not
- 9 being soil?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Anything below the surface
- 11 has been calculated and quantified. So all the
- 12 demolition below the surface was quantified, but that
- is a separate item than fill. So we assumed that that
- 14 would be removed and any voids created from that would
- 15 be filled in with soil that would be brought in to the
- 16 site.
- 17 MS. BERQUIST: Okay. That's fair enough.
- 18 Then who would be able to give an approximate estimate
- 19 of how much is going to be removed that's above the
- 20 surface?
- 21 THE WITNESS: I don't think anybody has
- 22 calculated that number.
- MR. REGAN: That would be done as part of,
- 24 you know, the demolition contract. I mean, if there's
- 25 any information that we submitted to the construction

- 1 official in association with the demolition permit it
- 2 would be dealt with at that time. I don't think it's
- 3 within the Board's purview to require that information
- 4 from the applicant at this stage.
- 5 MS. BERQUIST: Well, I'm not sure that a
- 6 requirement is really what I'm asking for. I'm just
- 7 asking to find out what -- if the demolition is not
- 8 included in the soil movement plan then how -- then
- 9 what's the time frame.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: It's 150,000-square
- 11 foot -- total of 150,000-square feet in the four
- 12 buildings. That's all we know. We're going to get a
- 13 demolition contractor licensed in the state of New
- 14 Jersey. We're going to apply for a demo permit which
- 15 will include many things, including controlling dust
- 16 and the traffic pattern, and then that's something that
- 17 we'll do after we have site plan approval and we're
- 18 ready to start demolition. We're not going to demolish
- 19 the building before we have site plan approval.
- There's nothing else we can tell you and
- 21 I've never been asked this question in a site plan
- 22 application before, and I've developed property with
- 23 much larger buildings than this one here and we've
- 24 never had a problem demolishing them and carting the
- 25 material away. We always comply with the law and get

- 1 the necessary permits and we're certainly going to do
- 2 the same thing here.
- 3 MS. BERQUIST: Well, how many of these
- 4 buildings that you keep referencing are in a
- 5 residential area on top of a Superfund site with
- 6 contaminated --
- 7 MR. FOURNIADIS: This site does not sit on
- 8 a Superfund site. The building will sit on the eight
- 9 acres that are not part of the Superfund site. And the
- 10 Superfund site isn't the Superfund site anymore.
- MS. BERQUIST: With all due respect that's
- 12 wrong.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: It's not wrong. But
- 14 that's okay. Every building we have ever done the
- 15 trucks have had to go through residential areas.
- 16 MS. BERQUIST: So how much, or how long do
- 17 you plan on this removal to be happening for?
- 18 MR. FOURNIADIS: Total demolition could be
- 19 between six and nine months.
- MS. BERQUIST: Six to eight months? Is
- 21 that what you said?
- 22 MR. FOURNIADIS: Six to nine months. I
- 23 mean, it depends. It depends on availability of
- 24 trucks, material, labor. It depends on how quickly the
- 25 town rules on the permits. There's a lot of factors

- 1 involved. It depends on the whether, it depends on
- 2 what time of year we start.
- We demolished 440,000-square feet in
- 4 Dunellen, a job that was mentioned several times by
- 5 some of the public participants, and it took us 12
- 6 months to demolish that building and cart everything
- 7 away through a residential area next to residential
- 8 neighborhoods with no incidents.
- 9 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Do you mind if I just
- 10 interject for one second and maybe just help clarify
- 11 something in my mind? And maybe it's just terminology
- 12 here. So you're going to move material out, demolition
- 13 material we'll call it for simplicity sake. You're
- 14 going to bring in cleaner soil. You're not going to
- 15 remove soil, but I think just from my understanding if
- 16 it were contaminated soil on this site would that be
- 17 removed or is that --
- 18 MR. FOURNIADIS: Yes. We're in the middle
- 19 right now, Chairman, of completing our remedial
- 20 investigation report for the eight acre, the
- 21 developable area. And that will determine if there are
- 22 any hot spots that need to be removed. That cant be
- 23 left in place underneath engineering and institutional
- 24 controls. We don't know what that number is. I don't
- 25 expect it to be a large number, but whatever it is that

- 1 has to be removed that can't remain, not withstanding
- 2 the engineering controls, that will also be removed.
- 3 But as we sit here today we're still in the middle of
- 4 completing the RI and we don't have that number, but
- 5 whatever it is if it needs to be removed it will be
- 6 removed. If it will stay in place and be capped it
- 7 will stay in place and be capped. Once we demolish the
- 8 buildings and we have the concrete tested, if we get
- 9 the approval from the DEP for reuse of the materials
- 10 then we will reuse that to reduce the amount of
- 11 material that (A), has to be exported, and (B), has to
- 12 be imported, thereby reducing the movement of debris in
- 13 soils, and reducing the number of trucks that have to
- 14 come to the property and leave the property. So it's
- in everybody's best interest to reuse as much of the
- 16 material as we can if it is environmentally proper to
- 17 do so.
- 18 That's exactly what we did in Dunellen. We
- 19 were able to reuse 20,000 cubic yards of concrete from
- 20 the buildings. So there the import was almost 70,000
- 21 cubic yards, so we're able to reduce the import by
- 22 about a third, and we're hoping to do something similar
- 23 here.
- 24 CHAIRMAN HANDS: So without putting words
- 25 in your mouth, in simple terms, if something is

- 1 contaminated the material or soil based upon your
- 2 findings that would be moved out appropriately.
- 3 Anything coming in will be cleaned, and if you can
- 4 reuse you will reuse -- that can be reused safely.
- 5 MR. FOURNIADIS: Yes to all three
- 6 questions.
- 7 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you. Christina,
- 8 does that help at all just to clarify that a bit?
- 9 MS. BERQUIST: A bit, yes. I mean,
- 10 honestly there is still a concern on my end for that
- 11 because, you know, you said the DEP is going to be
- 12 approving whether or not you can reuse the material.
- 13 So I'm -- who is going to be that person overseeing
- 14 that, is that the LSRP?
- 15 MR. FOURNIADIS: Ms. Berquist, I'll tell
- 16 when, you it's time to apply for this why don't you
- 17 come with me so you can see.
- MS. BERQUIST: It's simply a yes or no
- 19 question. You don't have to talk to me in a
- 20 condescending way.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: I'm trying to answer you.
- 22 The DEP makes us go through so many hurdles. So much
- 23 information has to be provided. Everything has to be
- 24 certified. First of all, we wouldn't want to keep
- 25 contaminated soils in place just to save a few dollars.

- 1 Nobody does that. But even if we wanted to we wouldn't
- 2 be able to do that because the DEP puts so much
- 3 scrutiny on everything that you do and it takes months
- 4 to get the necessary approvals to reuse the spoils from
- 5 a demolition. And we'll be an open book, as I've told
- 6 the Board many times. Whatever we submit to the DEP
- 7 we'll submit to the town, we'll submit to Mr.
- 8 Lanzafama, and they're free to look at it and let's see
- 9 what we already know. We're not going to try to get
- 10 away with anything here.
- 11 CHAIRMAN HANDS: And Christina, I also
- 12 think he's trying to be transparent in that comment and
- 13 that's and offering to you to be involved in that
- 14 process.
- MS. BERQUIST: Yeah. Well, thank you. I
- 16 appreciate that. Okay. So I have another question for
- 17 Mr. Martell then. The building height on the corner of
- 18 Division and Stone House or really Division, you just
- 19 said, I didn't ask that question earlier, but then it
- 20 just got brought up right before, you said it's going
- 21 to be 65-feet high from the road. That's awfully tall.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Let's just back up. So the
- 23 building's not 65 feet and we weren't talking about
- 24 Division. The buildings along Stone House Road are
- 25 45 feet. Building 8 which is closest to Division

- 1 actually sits lower than Division so it would be
- 2 perceived as, you know, being even lower than the
- 3 building height. Building 6 which is closest to the
- 4 river sits on the area of the site where we're
- 5 essentially filling the site. So it's a 45-foot tall
- 6 building, that one particular building sits 20 feet
- 7 higher than Stone House Road.
- 8 Along Division all of the buildings
- 9 actually sit lower than the grade on Division. So
- 10 along Division they would all be perceived by, you
- 11 know, a flat level eye as being lower than that true
- 12 height of the building, because it's at a lower grade.
- 13 So it's really just the one area along Stone House Road
- 14 which is really just a function of the fact that Stone
- 15 House Road drops 25 feet along the frontage.
- 16 MS. BERQUIST: So looking at the design
- 17 plan for the trees, I see that there are, you know,
- 18 some large or trees that are to grow larger in front of
- 19 it, but they're going to be sitting lower than the
- 20 foundation of the building; right?
- 21 THE WITNESS: The trees along Division
- 22 would sit just a tick higher than the buildings would
- 23 be at their grade. So they would be in between the
- 24 elevation of Division and the buildings themselves.
- 25 That would be the grade elevation of those trees.

- 1 Obviously those trees, the evergreens are 6-plus feet,
- 2 and the deciduous trees will obviously grow to a height
- 3 over time.
- 4 MS. BERQUIST: Right. So I was looking at
- 5 that, I know like a Willow Oak that you have in your
- 6 plans is probably the largest tree in there which grows
- 7 to up to 60-feet tall. But even of that sitting below
- 8 grade the building is going -- is still, and this is
- 9 once the trees are fully grown which, you know, at a
- 10 rate of like two feet per year is going to take a
- 11 considerable amount of time, but the Building 6 is
- 12 going to be towering over any kind of landscaping
- design in front of it regardless of what time we're
- 14 looking at it, right?
- 15 THE WITNESS: Right. And we have talked
- 16 about this grade a number of times.
- 17 MS. BERQUIST: I don't understand why I
- 18 can't -- I really feel that I'm not getting a
- 19 respectful yes or no answer. I think I'm getting --
- MR. REGAN: Well, you asked if it was
- 21 towering. It's not towering. I mean, you're using
- 22 words to describe things that are not realistic, and
- 23 the trees aren't intended to block the buildings.
- MS. BERQUIST: Okay. Well, let's see. I
- 25 asked for quantifiable answers before and I was told

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- 1 that's not possible. So let's go with this one then.
- 2 How many feet above the tree line are going to be
- 3 showing off the building from Stone House Road.
- 4 MR. REGAN: When?
- 5 MS. BERQUIST: Once the trees are fully
- 6 grown, for all I care. Certainly not when you put them
- 7 in, because I highly doubt you're going to put them in
- 8 at 60 feet.
- 9 MR. REGAN: We can't answer that question
- 10 unless you tell us when.
- MS. BERQUIST: Okay. Then why don't we
- talk about in five-year from now from when it's build?
- MR. REGAN: Are you able to give an
- 14 estimate for that, Jeff?
- 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. So building eight is,
- 16 you know, on Division it's 5-feet lower. On Stone
- 17 House it's anywhere from 2 feet lower to about the
- 18 same. So in five years the trees will be about 10-feet
- 19 taller. So take the height of the building minus 10
- 20 feet. Then on Stone House, you know, the building sits
- 21 20-feet higher than the road, the building is 45 feet
- 22 tall, as we talked about. Trees sit on the low side of
- 23 that, it will be about 10-feet tall in five years. So
- they'll be lower than the building considerably on
- 25 Building 6, and they'll be, you know, in that first 10

- 1 feet of Building 8.
- 2 MS. BERQUIST: So how much lower will they
- 3 be?
- 4 THE WITNESS: About 10-feet lower than the
- 5 bottom of the building.
- 6 MS. BERQUIST: Than the bottom of the
- 7 building meaning the ground level of the building?
- 8 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 9 MS. BERQUIST: So how much lower will they
- 10 be than the top of the building?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Anywhere from on one side
- 12 they'll be --
- MS. BERQUIST: Of Building 6?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, I've got you. On one
- 15 side it would be 35-feet lower, and on the other side
- it would be about maybe 20, 20-feet lower.
- 17 MS. BERQUIST: So whether or not you're
- 18 using an adjective to describe that 35 feet of building
- 19 well into the time after it's being built that's a lot,
- 20 that's a lot of building that's --
- 21 THE WITNESS: Well, I echo with a what Mr.
- 22 Regan said. The idea is not to block the building.
- 23 The building's been designed with the treatment to, you
- 24 know, to be proud to be visible. So it's not --
- 25 landscaping wasn't intended to block anything, it was

- 1 meant to really soften the view of the walls along the
- 2 road frontage and just provide a nice streetscape. So
- 3 it was never the intention to block these buildings.
- 4 MS. BERQUIST: Well, in that case, it would
- 5 really be great, just as I believe Chairman Hands asked
- 6 before, to get at least an approximate rendering of
- 7 what it would look like from let's say the Division -
- 8 Stone House Road. I mean, that direction is much more
- 9 frequently traveled than the direction behind the train
- 10 station which is what you currently have as a
- 11 rendering. And maybe it would soften this a little bit
- 12 looking, you know, at that kind of view as opposed to
- 13 the view on the lowest end of the property, because
- 14 that's a concern of mine, you know, if you're showing
- 15 this building at its highest height and there is
- 16 nothing representing that it's a little bit hard to
- 17 conceptualize, especially when you're talking about
- 18 such an enormous height as compared to any other
- 19 building structure in Millington.
- THE WITNESS: Well, the height of the
- 21 building not, per se, but from Stone House Road, you
- 22 know, we've described the height in both cases, depends
- 23 on where you're looking at it, but yeah the applicant
- 24 heard their request for the rendering. It's been
- 25 said --

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1 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Is that something --
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- 2 THE WITNESS: -- I've presented everything
- 3 fairly and accurately.
- 4 MR. REGAN: I don't know what the point is.
- 5 It's clear that, you know, it's going to show that the
- 6 landscaping is below the building itself. I mean, I'm
- 7 not sure what the purpose of it is, the rendering.
- 8 MR. FOURNIADIS: If I may also. First, we
- 9 complied with the ordinance. Secondly, there's a
- 10 terrace wall in front of it that we spent a lot of time
- 11 designing it, redesigning it, responding to all of your
- 12 expert's concerns and suggestions. There's a lot of
- 13 landscaping in that corner between Building 6 and then
- 14 Stone House Road. It's not just a straight wall. It's
- 15 not the foundation of a building. It's a step terrace
- 16 landscape feature. No amount of trees is going to
- 17 block that building. Maybe one day when the tree is
- 18 60-feet tall it will be but that's not going to be for
- 19 a long time.
- I just don't understand the purpose of a
- 21 rendering, you're going to see the building. Like Jeff
- 22 said, it's -- the top of the building is going to be
- 23 65 feet from the bottom of the road, but there is going
- 24 to be landscaping on the road and there's also that
- 25 landscaped terraced area behind -- between Building 6

- 1 and Stone House Road. We have complied with everything
- 2 in your ordinance and all of the recommendations and
- 3 requests of your professionals.
- I don't see why we have to now stop
- 5 everything and come back with a rendering and have
- 6 another meeting on that.
- 7 MS. BERQUIST: Well, I mean, if you're --
- 8 MR. FOURNIADIS: And we're not going to do
- 9 it. The bottom line is we're not going to do it.
- 10 MS. BERQUIST: Of course. Just because you
- 11 don't have to.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: No. Because this is our
- 13 seventh meeting, and then we have answered questions.
- 14 We have brought our professionals back. We have
- 15 provided revised renderings, and everything the town
- 16 has asked us to do we have done. There comes a point
- 17 in time where the applicant rests and says that's it.
- 18 No more testimony. We're here to take questions and
- 19 listen to the public testify.
- 20 MR. REGAN: I mean, we're answering
- 21 questions now with our professionals. That's the
- 22 purpose of where we are in the hearing.
- 23 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Ms. Berquist, do you have
- 24 any other points?
- MS. BERQUIST: No. I don't. Thank you.

- 1 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you. I appreciate
- 2 it. I see that Chuck and Pam there, but I also see
- 3 that it's 10:28. So should we he take a break time or
- 4 should we carry on?
- 5 COORDINATOR COONCE: I think for the Court
- 6 we should take a break.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: Of course we've got to
- 8 take a break. We've been at this for two hours. Let's
- 9 take a break.
- 10 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Ten minutes. 9:40.
- 11 (Whereupon, a recess is taken at 9:29 p.m.)
- 12 (Back on the record at 9:40 p.m.)
- 13 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Okay. We'll continue
- 14 then. Where were we, Deb? It looks like we have a
- 15 couple of raised hands.
- 16 COORDINATOR COONCE: Yes. So it looks like
- 17 Mr. Arentowicz raised his hand again, so I will allow
- 18 him in. Chuck? Mr. Arentowicz?
- MR. ARENTOWICZ: I'm okay. I guess I
- 20 didn't lower my hand. I'm okay.
- COORDINATOR COONCE: Okay. Pam had some
- 22 more questions. Pam are you there?
- MS. OGENS: Yes, I am. To follow up on
- 24 Christine's questions, I want to clarify what's in the
- 25 EWMA. I know that this is only for questions but when

- 1 a response isn't accurate I feel it's my duty to bring
- 2 it to the attention of the group. And in the EWMA the
- 3 preliminary assessment site investigation report that
- 4 was submitted to Mr. Fourniadis in March of 2019 on
- 5 page four it states, "The proximately 12-acre property
- 6 located at 50 Division avenue is a delisted National
- 7 Priorities List, or Superfund site." It is the full
- 8 12 acres. I will investigate that further. I'll get
- 9 the list from the USCPA, but it's not just the site,
- 10 the part that has been partitioned off as developable
- 11 versus restricted. It is the entire 12 acres, and it
- 12 was delisted, it was not removed from the Superfund.
- 13 And that's evident from the fact that it still has to
- 14 be monitored.
- 15 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you, Pam. I don't
- 16 know if anybody wants to respond to that or not.
- MS. OGENS: Well, going forward can we
- 18 please get that correct that it's the full 12 acres,
- 19 and not the five acres that is restricted?
- 20 MR. FOURNIADIS: But you just read that
- 21 it's de-listed.
- MS. OGENS: It's delisted, it's not
- 23 removed.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: It's the same thing.
- MS. OGENS: I would have to find proof of

- 1 that, but it is still contaminated enough that it is
- 2 monitored, and it is monitored by the New Jersey DEP.
- 3 MR. FOURNIADIS: I'm sorry. Are you
- 4 testifying or are you asking me a question?
- 5 MS. OGENS: I'm correcting your error, sir.
- 6 MR. REGAN: Bob just let her --
- 7 MR. FOURNIADIS: You're testifying.
- 8 MS. OGENS: I will bring it up when it's
- 9 time for public comment as well. And I appreciate your
- 10 accepting the correction.
- MR. REGAN: We're not.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: We're not accepting it.
- MR. REGAN: We're not accepting it.
- MS. OGENS: Then I would just like to be it
- on the record that you are incorrect and I will testify
- 16 when it is public he comment, sir.
- 17 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you, Pam.
- MR. REGAN: Do we have a question?
- MS. OGENS: I will, but not tonight.
- 20 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you, Pam.
- MR. FOURNIADIS: Not tonight? Are we
- 22 finishing tonight?
- 23 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I don't the see anymore
- 24 hands raised. Do you Deb? I don't see anything else.
- 25 BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: I have one quick

- 1 question for Mr. Martell, if you don't mind.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 3 BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: There's been a lot of
- 4 discussion at the last two meetings about that height
- 5 at the western edge of Building 6.
- THE WITNESS: Right.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: Why did you not grade
- 8 the property to minimize that? Is it technically or
- 9 for safety aspect why didn't you try to grade the
- 10 property to eliminate that?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Safety, basically, I mean,
- 12 there's safety and I guess I would just say use and
- 13 enjoyment of the property. From a safety standpoint
- 14 it's kind of acceptable grades within parking areas,
- 15 within driveways from an engineering perspective. So
- 16 certainly we didn't violate any of those, create any
- 17 awkward, you know, situations on the property. So the
- 18 reality is the property has a 30, you know, 34, 35-feet
- 19 grade change across it, and that is a difficult
- 20 situation to accommodate in the proposed condition, you
- 21 know, while designing a desirable safe development. So
- 22 really all the fill is really concentrated in that one
- 23 corner.
- 24 If you look at the earthwork exhibit that
- 25 we submitted, you know, really, on the balance of the

- 1 site you're in single digits until you really get into
- 2 that one area of the site. So we're really talking
- 3 about a small area of the property, even when you go to
- 4 the next door building you're only filling between one
- 5 and three feet. So the property just drops off
- 6 dramatically in that one area. Stone House Road drops
- 7 24 feet long the frontage, and we're unable to design a
- 8 safe desirable development and have that one building
- 9 sit significantly lower than really the other buildings
- 10 to avoid that fill.
- BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: Okay. Thank you.
- 12 That answers my question.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I think that's the end of
- 14 questions of the engineer.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you all.
- 16 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I see there's some
- 17 submission. Deb, did you say, there are some documents
- 18 on the website, is that --
- 19 COORDINATOR COONCE: There was just one
- 20 exhibit. There was an elevation rendering update that
- 21 I believe unless Mr. Regan is -- has a different number
- 22 I think we would have to mark as A-12.
- 23 (Exhibit A-12, Elevation Rendering, was
- 24 received and marked.)
- MR. REGAN: I think what it is, Mr.

- 1 Chairman, was a question was raised by a member of the
- 2 public at last month's meeting about the plans not
- 3 showing height dimensions. So Mr. Fourniadis had
- 4 directed the project architect, Mr. Alberto, to prepare
- 5 that and that was what was submitted. So I don't think
- 6 -- obviously, it's a new drawing, but I don't think
- 7 it's ultimately any different than any of the other
- 8 documents that were submitted, other than it now shows
- 9 clearly, you know, the height of the building as
- 10 measured out.
- 11 I can have Mr. Alberto elaborate a little
- 12 if you so desire. I'm not sure that it's necessary.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I just wanted to point out
- 14 that it exists and it's on the website and it's been up
- 15 loaded. So whatever way to discuss it or just
- 16 reference it, I'm happy to leave it as a reference.
- 17 COORDINATOR COONCE: Yes. Currently up on
- 18 the website it's labeled as Exhibit TBD, to be
- 19 determined, because I have to go back through the notes
- 20 and make sure that we're all caught up with the exhibit
- 21 numbers.
- MR. REGAN: Angelo, if it's okay, Mr.
- 23 Chairman, I'll just have him literally spend a moment
- 24 just quickly describing what it is.
- 25 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Yes, thank you.

- 1 MR. REGAN: Angelo, if you don't just
- 2 briefly describe to the Board, you know, that
- 3 additional plan that you submitted.
- 4 ANGELO ALBERTO, having been previously
- 5 sworn testified as follows:
- 6 THE WITNESS: Sure. And if I can show my
- 7 screen to show the graphic.
- 8 MR. REGAN: That would be great.
- 9 THE WITNESS: So we presented -- we added
- 10 three elevations, but these really are just rendered
- 11 elevations and we're expressing the floor-to-floor
- 12 heights. So can everyone see this?
- 13 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Yes.
- 14 THE WITNESS: So this is the front
- 15 elevation that we showed before in black-and-white.
- 16 And it shows the total height permitted is 45 feet.
- 17 We're at 44 feet right here, which allows -- you'll see
- 18 the side elevation for a good roof pitch. And that's
- 19 what I testified to before. We're showing
- 20 floor-to-floor heights of 10 foot 10, giving a 9-foot
- 21 finished floor height inside. Second floor is 10 foot
- 22 8 giving it 9-foot floor height inside. And then the
- 23 third floor is 9-foot eight. It's a bedroom level. So
- 24 that floor will be 8 feet. And we have about 13 feet
- 25 2 inches, as I testified before, for the top of the

- 1 plate to the maximum building height of 45 feet. So
- 2 that's what this elevation shows.
- 3 We also took the same elevations we had
- 4 before and these are not rendered, they're toned
- 5 similar to the tone colors of the professional
- 6 renderings showing the slight blue horizontal siding,
- 7 the brick and the white composite trim. So that's the
- 8 front elevation. This is a similar elevation. It's a
- 9 rear elevation. And these are the two side elevations
- 10 showing that you still have a generous pitched roof
- 11 above the third floor, same building heights.
- We also detailed the trash enclosure here
- 13 to reflect the architecture of the electric closet and
- 14 on the other side the sprinkler closet. We also put in
- 15 scale here five electric meters because that was
- 16 something else that was brought up before and we might
- 17 be beholden to the electric company but we're hoping we
- 18 can put five meters on each end of the building, which
- 19 lessens the number of meters on each side, five on each
- 20 side as opposed to ten on one side. And that's our
- 21 design intent and our hope. Again, the electric
- 22 company may change that.
- But that's essentially what we have added.
- 24 Those three elevations.
- MR. REGAN: Thank you, Angelo. I have

- 1 nothing further.
- 2 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you very much. So
- 3 with that -- is that the end of your professionals'
- 4 testimony at this point?
- 5 MR. REGAN: Yes, it is, Mr. Chairman.
- 6 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Do we want to go over to,
- 7 Jolanta, go over to public testimony at this point, no
- 8 questions -- no comments rather, but testimony?
- 9 COORDINATOR COONCE: Yes.
- 10 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Do you want to just
- 11 outline what that means?
- MS. MAZIARZ: Okay. If any members of the
- 13 public have any exhibits or testimony that they would
- 14 like to present to the Board at this time the Board
- will ask members of the public to present their
- 16 testimony when you are -- you have to get in line
- 17 effectively, you have to queue, and Debra will choose
- 18 who will testify first. When you are chosen to testify
- 19 you will have to be sworn. So all of the testimony you
- 20 are going to be giving will be sworn testimony. You
- 21 will have to state your name for the record and your
- 22 address, and you must testify with regard if you are a
- 23 fact witness through facts that are within your
- 24 knowledge.
- 25 So the Board is going to have to evaluate

- 1 whether the facts that are being presented are facts
- 2 that the person who is testifying has knowledge of. If
- 3 you are going to testify with regard to areas of
- 4 expertise then you will have to be qualified as to
- 5 those areas and be accepted as an expert witness,
- 6 otherwise you will not be allowed or your testimony
- 7 will not be considered if you're going to be testifying
- 8 with regard to an area that requires certain expertise,
- 9 such as planning or engineering or architecture.
- 10 So this is not the time for public
- 11 comments. This is not the time to express an opinion.
- 12 This is the time to testify with regard to facts,
- 13 and/or expert opinion if anyone out there is an expert
- in any of these subjects. If you have any exhibits
- 15 that you would like to present to the Board for the
- 16 Board's consideration then those exhibits will be
- 17 marked. We will be marking them, I think, Deb, the way
- 18 that we marked exhibits during the Redevelopment
- 19 Hearing. We will mark it as "O" Objector and then we
- 20 will add the individual's initials after "O," so that
- 21 we can keep track of whose exhibits were whose; is that
- 22 okay, Deb?
- COORDINATOR COONCE: Well, actually, I've
- 24 given proposed exhibits to the individuals who have
- 25 submitted to us on the website. And so what I've done

- 1 is basically so Mr. Arentowicz' is marked CA-1. Mr.
- 2 John Caputo who had submitted three exhibits they're
- 3 marked with his initials as well. And Mr. Bill
- 4 Kaufman, yes.
- 5 MS. MAZIARZ: That's fine. As long as it's
- 6 clear, because I'd like it to be clear for the record
- 7 so the Court Reporter will know how we're marking these
- 8 things. So for the Court Reporter as each exhibit is
- 9 marked into evidences we'll clearly state on the record
- 10 what the name of that exhibit is so that you can get
- 11 that into your transcript.
- 12 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HANDS: And in terms of
- 14 expectations of testimony in terms of time and
- 15 responses from somebody else, what's the process? Can
- somebody just testify on the facts?
- 17 MS. MAZIARZ: Well -- yes. Any person who
- is testifying can be cross-examined by the applicant,
- 19 by the applicant's attorney. Also, Board members are
- 20 also entitled to ask anyone who is testifying about
- 21 their testimony. The Board is also allowed to examine
- 22 all witnesses.
- 23 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you very much. With
- 24 that said, do you want we're going to call the first
- 25 person to testify.

- 1 COORDINATOR COONCE: Yes. So I would
- 2 suggest if the Board is in agreement that when we take
- 3 members of the public who are planning on testifying or
- 4 offering exhibits for testimony.
- 5 Members of the public, this is the point
- 6 where you would raise your hand if you want to testify.
- 7 I'm not seeing anyone. Oh, Mr. Kaufman. Okay. Bill
- 8 are you there?
- 9 MR. KAUFMAN: I'm here. Pardon my pause.
- 10 I'm preparing for comment. I didn't really necessarily
- 11 break out for efficiency sake testimony as a separate
- 12 item. So I was hoping to have a few minutes to do that
- 13 prior to starting out so someone else would go, but if
- 14 I'm the only one who is going to testify as an expert
- 15 then I will attempt to do that now.
- My name is William Kaufman. I am a
- 17 professional architect. Licensed --
- 18 MS. MAZIARZ: Okay. Mr. Kaufman, before
- 19 you testify, can you raise your right hand? Do you
- 20 swear that the testimony you're about to give with
- 21 regard to this application will be the truth so help
- 22 you God?
- MR. KAUFMAN: I do.
- MS. MAZIARZ: Can you please spell your
- 25 last name for the record?

- 1 MR. KAUFMAN: K-a-u-f-m-a-n.
- 2 MS. MAZIARZ: Thank you. And can you
- 3 please state your address for the record?
- 4 MR. KAUFMAN: 1932 Long Hill Road,
- 5 Millington.
- 6 MS. MAZIARZ: Thank you.
- 7 WILLIAM KAUFMAN, having been duly sworn,
- 8 testifies as follows:
- 9 MS. MAZIARZ: Thank you. And if you are
- 10 going to testify as an expert I know you've been
- 11 qualified before, at least in the Zoning Board in Long
- 12 Hill Township in the past, perhaps even the Planning
- 13 Board, but can you give the Board the benefit of your
- 14 qualifications? I understand that you are going to be
- 15 testifying as an architect.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Certainly.
- MS. MAZIARZ: Thank you.
- MR. KAUFMAN: I am a professional architect
- in the state of New Jersey for over 25 years. I have
- 20 presented numerous cases as an expert fact witness to
- 21 the Long Hill Township Planning Board and the Long Hill
- 22 Township Board of Adjustment. My license is current
- 23 and active. I've also appeared in numerous other
- 24 Boards across the country. I have a Bachelor of
- 25 Architecture Degree from the New Jersey School of

- 1 Architecture at New Jersey Institute of Technology from
- 2 1991 and I've been practicing here in Millington, my
- 3 primary office is located in Millington here for over
- 4 20 years.
- 5 MS. MAZIARZ: Thank you, Mr. Kaufman. Mr.
- 6 Chairman Hands, do you accept Mr. Kaufman's
- 7 qualifications?
- 8 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Oh, yes. And Bill's been
- 9 before the Board before so --
- 10 MS. MAZIARZ: Yes. He's been qualified
- 11 before. Thank you.
- MR. KAUFMAN: Thank you. My -- I have a
- 13 couple of exhibits that I would like to have marked, or
- 14 at least one exhibit. I'm not sure -- pardon the
- 15 noise, that's the Millington train running through.
- 16 I'd like to at least have the exhibit marked for
- 17 evidence.
- 18 COORDINATOR COONCE: So Bill, there's six
- 19 pages in this exhibit. Do you want me to share the
- 20 screen?
- MR. KAUFMAN: Sure. Can we mark them all
- 22 as one exhibit or do you want to mark them all as --
- 23 COORDINATOR COONCE: If the Board is in
- 24 approval I have marked them all as Exhibit-WK as
- 25 submitted by William Kaufman of Millington.

- 1 (Exhibit WK-1, was received and marked.)
- 2 MR. KAUFMAN: That's fine.
- 3 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Okay. That's different
- 4 slides so that's easy to refer to.
- 5 COORDINATOR COONCE: Yes.
- 6 MR. KAUFMAN: Okay. She's going to share.
- 7 COORDINATOR COONCE: I'm going to try.
- 8 Hold on a minute. It's not pulling up the correct page
- 9 on my screen here. Hold on a minute. Here we go. Car
- 10 you see it?
- 11 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Yes.
- 12 COORDINATOR COONCE: Okay. Is my cursor
- 13 moving around, can you see that? Okay.
- MR. KAUFMAN: So just for the Board's
- 15 benefit, the exhibit that's before you is, what is it
- 16 WK-1, Deb?
- 17 COORDINATOR COONCE: Yes, WK-1. It's a
- 18 series of six pages. Essentially, what this is is a
- 19 compilation of the applicant's documents as submitted
- 20 to this Board copied and pasted together. So they have
- 21 not been manipulated in any way other than to apply
- them in plan and elevation to a form of massing so that
- 23 they can be viewed three dimensionally. So in other
- 24 words, the applicant's elevation drawings were pasted
- 25 onto an extrusion of the engineer site plan and placed

- on the applicant's documents just for reference.
- 2 It's not intended to be artistic in nature
- 3 or express or show anything other than sort of massing
- 4 in scale, and it's the only information other than
- 5 possibly some items indicated, outside elements per
- 6 scale, a vehicle or two, maybe a tree is simply a cut a
- 7 paste of the applicant's documents into a
- 8 three-dimensional depiction.
- 9 The purpose of these exhibits are really
- 10 just to illustrate different perspectives that the
- 11 community would have and how these things would feel in
- 12 direct opposition to some of the statements that were
- 13 made by the applicant and the applicant's
- 14 professionals.
- So page one is an aerial perspective view
- 16 very similar in height and, you know, in vantage point
- 17 from the applicant's rendering, although not admittedly
- 18 not beautifully colored with surrounding landscape,
- 19 just to compare if the Board were to take this view
- 20 perspective and just compare it against the applicant's
- 21 rendering you can see it's -- you can compare and
- 22 contrast the heights of the buildings. You'll see that
- 23 they are similar. They should be a very close
- 24 approximation to one another.
- 25 If you scroll to page two, if you can

- 1 scroll down, Deb, a little bit, two and three are
- 2 somewhat redundant. These two are approximate
- 3 perspective renditions from the much discussed lower
- 4 Stone House Road vantage point. Again, no landscaping
- 5 is shown here, these are not intended to be
- 6 illustrative just a way to help the Board visualize and
- 7 the public visualize the scale of what these buildings
- 8 might feel like in terms of their massing along Stone
- 9 House Road.
- 10 So this particular one on page number three
- is vantage point from about the center of Sone House
- 12 Road looking northeast toward the enclave development.
- 13 You can see the buildings placed in a row, and the
- 14 approximate grade. Again, these grades taken right
- 15 from the engineering plan just to press in the general
- 16 area to give an idea of the height differentiation.
- 17 If you scroll down a little bit further to
- 18 I believe this is Sheet 4 and 5 of that exhibit both of
- 19 these perspectives are taken from Division Avenue. The
- 20 first one that's in the screen now in your vantage
- 21 point is at the intersection of Division and Stone
- 22 House looking back toward the development in the
- 23 southwesterly direction. So that first building is
- 24 Building 12, I believe. Let me just double-check that.
- 25 I'm sorry, Building 8.

- 1 The first one is Building 8, and then as
- 2 you approach down towards the right of your screen
- 3 looking back toward the railroad station along Division
- 4 in a northerly direction so it goes Building 8 Building
- 5 10, and Building 12. And then in the very, very
- 6 distance you can see sort of a gray shadow, that's the
- 7 scale of the original commercial building prior to its
- 8 redesign. And if you scroll down one more to number
- 9 five, this is the same street but looking back up
- 10 Division towards the south.
- The gray sort of shaded box is on the right
- 12 is the height of the original proposed retail building,
- 13 and then Buildings 12, 10 and 8 respectively looking
- 14 south along Division Avenue on the right. And then the
- 15 final one is just an elevated perspective just to show
- 16 how this thing was created. It's very rudimentary but
- 17 sort of affective. You can see it's the applicant's
- drawings and they're sort of dropped down there for
- 19 scale. So that's the exhibit.
- I want to get to the ordinance again. I
- 21 apologize for the delay here, I just want to get my
- 22 testimony separate from my closing discussions.
- 23 Section 1-52-1b of the ordinance states that all new
- 24 buildings shall be related harmoniously to the natural
- 25 features of the site and to existing buildings and

- 1 other substantial structures in the vicinity that had
- 2 some visual relationship to the proposed building or
- 3 buildings.
- 4 We heard from the applicant's architect
- 5 that they had not actually been to the site, and that
- 6 Mr. Alberto felt that the design conformed to all the
- 7 neighborhood -- conformed to the neighborhood and he
- 8 described it as handsome, I think was his adjective.
- 9 So it's really a question and a statement. I wonder
- 10 how these buildings can conform to 152-1.b having not
- 11 been designed to meet any of the that criteria.
- 12 So in terms of its direct, the direct
- 13 testimony -- I'm trying to make this a little more
- 14 factual so it's easier for the Board to understand my
- 15 position, "The achievement of such a relationship --"
- 16 this is reading directly from the ordinance -- "may
- include the enclosure of space in conjunction with
- 18 other existing buildings or other proposed buildings
- 19 and the creation of focal points with respect to
- 20 avenues of approach, terrain features, and other
- 21 buildings in particular areas. Building design
- 22 orientation may have to be adjusted in order to
- 23 maintain such relationships and to preserve visual
- 24 access to the community or focal points."
- 25 The fact is there really are no specific

- 1 attributes or traits or design ideology, massing or any
- 2 of the forms that were derived specifically from the
- 3 local vernacular architecture or even the history of
- 4 the Millington regional area which is required by
- 5 ordinance. This project requires relief from this
- 6 Board, and its relief that which was not properly
- 7 noticed for. And I would hope that the Board members
- 8 could see that this important provision of the code
- 9 really has been ignored by this applicant in terms of
- 10 its conformity with Section 151-1.b.
- 11 Session 135-1, we talked a little bit about
- 12 this testimony on this and I would like to put some
- 13 clarification on this. 135.1 LU, Uniformity in
- 14 Architectural Design or Appearance. Quoting from the
- ordinance, "No new dwelling shall be erected in a
- 16 housing development consisting of two or more houses if
- it shall appear from the plans submitted that said
- 18 house is substantially alike in exterior design and
- 19 appearance with any adjacent dwellings situated on the
- 20 same or opposite side of the street within 300 feet of
- 21 the proposed dwelling, or with said distance from a
- 22 proposed dwelling for which a building permit has been
- 23 issued or is pending."
- Now, the applicant and their architect
- 25 stated that they weren't really aware of this

- 1 provision, and then they claimed after reading it that
- 2 they presumed it to be referring to single-family
- 3 homes. However, nowhere in that language is there any
- 4 reference to single-family construction. So in fact,
- 5 the way I read it and the way it seems to be logically
- 6 interpreted professionally is, the term that's most
- 7 frequently used is "dwelling." And that term is used
- 8 four times. And that language the word dwelling
- 9 cross-references with the word "house" in the very
- 10 first sentence.
- 11 So what it means to me as a professional
- 12 architect is that the term "dwelling" and the word
- 13 "house" become interchangeable. If the authors had
- 14 somehow intended this provision to be limited to just
- 15 single-family homes it would have been really easy to
- 16 state that. But in fact, the ordinance has a
- 17 definition for dwelling and not one for house.
- 18 So I want to refer the Board to the
- 19 definition in the ordinance for dwelling. The
- 20 definition of dwelling is, and I'm quoting from the
- 21 ordinance again, "A building or portion thereof, a
- 22 building or portion thereof designed, occupied or
- 23 intended for occupancy as a separate living quarter
- 24 with cooking, sleeping, and sanitary facilities for the
- 25 exclusive use of the occupants thereof. The term

- 1 dwelling shall also include the term residents."
- Now, the operative part to me, there are
- 3 two parts of this definition that are very relevant.
- 4 "The first part is a building or portion thereof,"
- 5 which clearly means it can be a part of another
- 6 building. It's not referring to a single-family
- 7 residence.
- 8 The last part is, "The term dwelling shall
- 9 include the term residence." We can all speculate as
- 10 to why they would need to do that, but to me it's
- 11 really put this all encompassing idea together that
- 12 we're not just talking about just single-family homes,
- 13 we're talking about any type of residential structure.
- In LU 135.2 it states, "Houses within such
- 15 specified distance from each other shall be considered
- 16 uniform in exterior design and appearance if they have
- 17 any one of the following characteristics: --" just one
- 18 -- "1A, the same basic dimensions in floor plans that
- 19 are used without substantial differentiation of one or
- 20 more existing exterior elevations. Two, the height and
- 21 design of the roofs are without substantial change in
- 22 design and appearance. And Three, the size, type and
- 23 location of windows and doors in the front elevation
- 24 are without substantial differentiation."
- 25 So regardless if the applicability of this

- 1 provision is conveniently suited for the proposed
- 2 application or not, the intent is patently clear by the
- 3 language that the ordinance attempting to curtail, in
- 4 fact, it's actually intended to eliminate replication
- 5 or repetition of design in housing projects.
- 6 This application is the antithesis of that
- 7 and the intent of the law. So it repeats as we know a
- 8 single prototype building 14 times on the site. So my
- 9 position as a professional architect is that simply
- 10 ignoring the law doesn't excuse it. And the Board has
- 11 to consider this applicant was not only unaware of this
- 12 provision, but once they became made aware they stated
- 13 emphatically that they wouldn't change their design and
- 14 this is a "good design," and "this is what they're
- 15 sticking to." So I wanted to make sure that was clear
- 16 and put on the record.
- 17 The ordinance also has a definition for
- 18 adjacent grade. Now, adjacent grade refers to the
- 19 natural grade of a site prior to construction. And we
- 20 heard from the applicant's engineer, I didn't really
- 21 get a chance to talk to Mr. Lanzafama directly on the
- 22 record about this, but in my experience as a
- 23 professional architect in many, many development
- 24 projects, ordinances often use this language to prevent
- 25 developers from essentially just piling up dirt around

- 1 their buildings to mitigate the effect of the height of
- 2 the structure.
- 3 So it's precisely what this applicant has
- 4 done in this case and in the case of the buildings
- 5 along Stone House Road. There's been a lot of
- 6 discussion about that corner. I don't want to beat it
- 7 to death, but what I really want to put on the record
- 8 here is that the applicant's engineer and the architect
- 9 have testified to various degrees of this and confirmed
- 10 that we're talking about Stone House Road elevation of
- 11 approximately 240 feet above sea level, which is closer
- 12 or about the original virgin grade prior to
- 13 construction.
- The finished floor for Building 6 set back
- only 35 feet from the right-of-way is at 263. And then
- 16 the applicant's architect testified on the building
- 17 height to the ridge line is about 45 feet. So putting
- 18 that elevation about 308 feet above sea level, the math
- 19 just simply says that the actual height above the
- 20 natural grade, which is the way the height in my
- 21 opinion is intended to be measured by this ordinance,
- 22 or at least just the definition of it, is nearly 70
- 23 feet, and 45 feet is clearly required.
- And this is some 55 percent over the
- 25 required height ordinance. The Exhibit WK-1 hat I

- 1 submitted shows how that corridor along Stone House
- 2 Road might be perceived by pedestrians and neighbors in
- 3 the adjacent areas of Stone House Road. And so I
- 4 submit that this condition requires a height variance.
- 5 And because it requires a relief greater than ten
- 6 percent it requires a "D" Variance. A variance that
- 7 was not properly noticed for, and a variance that this
- 8 Board is not authorized to rule on.
- 9 So if for some reason unknown to me that
- 10 this Board decides that it doesn't require relief for
- 11 the Stone House Road structures I think the Board is
- 12 still obligated to consider the enormous and
- 13 unprecedented scale of these building and the negative
- 14 impact -- and the negative visual impact that this
- 15 area's going to have on the surrounding community and
- 16 the public.
- 17 The applicants -- let me back up. We
- 18 discussed with the applicant's architect and the
- 19 applicant's architect concurred that he had extensive
- 20 experience in transit oriented development, and that a
- 21 common feature was the Main Street Approach and not one
- 22 that was taken for this project, but a Main Street
- 23 Approach is essentially one that provides buildings to
- 24 crowd up tightly to streets, framing pedestrian
- 25 corridors and subsequently slowing traffic and creating

- 1 more of a streetscape.
- 2 He further went on to say that the
- 3 ordinance unfortunately prohibited the placement of
- 4 buildings tight along Division Ave., and that rather
- 5 than submit a plan along with some compelling arguments
- 6 supporting the Main Street concept, the developer chose
- 7 by his right to set the buildings back from the street
- 8 some 50 feet from Division Ave.
- 9 So in doing so the developer now claims he
- 10 is somehow exempt from the height ordinance. So
- 11 122.15.3(d)8.C, I want to be crystal clear for the
- 12 record on this. The definition is maximum building
- 13 height, and it reads, number one, "Two-and-a-half
- 14 stories or 35 feet for buildings facing Division Avenue
- 15 (east boundary lines) or the New Jersey Transit
- 16 railroad tracks (north boundary lines)." So this
- 17 language is written clearly, and as far as I can read
- 18 without any ambiguity. There is no reference to
- 19 setback. It simply states buildings that face Stone
- 20 House Road must not exceed 35 feet in height or
- 21 two-and-a-half stories. It doesn't say, oh by the way
- 22 if you push them back 50 feet, of 5 feet or 500 feet
- you can ignore this provision of the ordinance.
- Mr. Regan asked the applicant's architect
- 25 to clarify it because the front doors faced inward on

- 1 the internal streets or parking lots that those
- 2 buildings don't actually face Division Avenue because
- 3 the front doors are on the front side. On my cross the
- 4 applicant's architect testified that on Buildings
- 5 number 12, number 10 and number 8 the front door of six
- 6 different unite types do in fact face Division Ave. And
- 7 so the testimony on the record is that these structures
- 8 are all three-stories high, and 45-feet high. And this
- 9 is approximately 30 percent higher than the ordinance
- 10 allows, which requires a "D" Variance for relief.
- 11 Again, which this Board is not authorized to grant.
- 12 It further requires a use variance for the
- 13 construction of a third floor, where a third floor's
- 14 not permitted. So this Board is also not authorized to
- 15 grant a use variance. Buildings number One and
- 16 Building number 14 face the north boundary line. The
- 17 language in the height ordinance in the DRO is exactly
- 18 the same. It's actually -- it's a run-on sentence. It
- 19 treats these two exactly the same. It says, and I'll
- 20 read it again, "Thirty-five feet for buildings facing
- 21 Division Avenue, the east boundary line, or the New
- 22 Jersey Transit railroad tracks north boundary line.
- 23 There's no other descriptor.
- We heard from the engineer and the
- 25 architect that those buildings along the north property

- 1 line are in fact 45-feet tall and three-stories high.
- 2 And so they require the same relief from the Board of
- 3 Adjustments for the same reasons previously stated.
- 4 And I don't know, I mean, the applicant and its
- 5 professionals lead us to believe that the language in
- 6 the ordinance, although it seems crystal clear to me as
- 7 an architect, actually means that the buildings that
- 8 face Stone House Road and are set back 34 feet can be
- 9 three stories and 45-feet tall, particularly the
- 10 buildings on the corner, but using the same language in
- 11 the same ordinance simply by pushing those buildings
- 12 back an additional 14 feet that somehow miraculously
- 13 the buildings along Division Avenue no longer face
- 14 Division Ave, and that the ordinance is no longer valid
- 15 and doesn't apply.
- 16 So we go back to the exhibit that I
- 17 presented, the views along Division -- Deb, would you
- 18 please bring that exhibit back up?
- 19 COORDINATOR COONCE: Everyone see it?
- 20 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes. If you can scroll down
- 21 to the middle of I think it was page four. That one
- 22 right there and the next one. So I understand that
- 23 there's a set back difference from the building on the
- 24 corner of Stone House Road and the building on the
- 25 corner of Division, but this is the perspective, this

- 1 exhibit shows the perspective of what that feels like.
- 2 And there may be more trees in here, but we have
- 3 already heard testimony from the engineer that these
- 4 trees aren't designed to block the view.
- 5 If you scroll down to the next page number
- 6 four, this is the view looking the other way. It's a
- 7 really tough thing for me to hear an applicant or a
- 8 professional architect or a reviewing Board saying that
- 9 those buildings are not facing Division Ave. I don't
- 10 know what they're facing if they're not facing Division
- 11 Ave. It seems patently clear to me that they are. I
- don't know how it wasn't flagged. I mean, the concept
- 13 that these don't need to comply to the height ordinance
- 14 is just -- it's just incomprehensible to me having
- 15 professionally been run through the ringer by many,
- 16 many professionals and Boards. I find it a little
- 17 disconcerting that this was not flagged upon the
- 18 initial review by the Zoning Officers or the Board
- 19 Professionals, but what it really reinforces to me is
- 20 the notion that the information that was presented for
- 21 completeness was in fact incomplete and misleading.
- 22 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Are you still speaking
- 23 or --
- MR. KAUFMAN: One second, Mr. Chairman.
- 25 I'm trying to move to --

- 1 COORDINATOR COONCE: Do you want me to keep
- 2 the shared screen up?
- MR. KAUFMAN: No. You can take it down.
- 4 That's the extent of my professional observation and
- 5 testimony with respect to those exhibits and some of
- 6 the testimony given by the applicant. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you for that. And I
- 8 just want to say thank you for taking the time to do
- 9 that work. That's very helpful, so I really appreciate
- 10 your thoughts and testimony there.
- 11 Perhaps best if Frank, perhaps, if there's
- 12 anything you wish to comment before the Board
- 13 professionals wish to comment.
- MR. REGAN: Not at the moment, Mr.
- 15 Chairman.
- 16 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Board Professionals, did
- 17 you want to comment and say anything back based on the
- 18 testimony provided?
- MR. LANZAFAMA: The only thing I would like
- 20 to comment on is the use of the term "highest adjacent
- 21 grade" in the definitions. That's a term that's often
- 22 used in the FEMA regulations with regard to the
- 23 topography adjacent to a structure, not necessarily
- 24 associated with measuring the height of the building.
- 25 The way I read your ordinances it seems to

- 1 me that it's clear that the grade is measured from the
- 2 lowest elevation around the foundation, and it's silent
- 3 on whether that's existing or proposed. And it appears
- 4 that from the zoning officer and others that the
- 5 interpretation is from the finished grade post
- 6 construction. So I believe that their measurements are
- 7 correct with regard to the elevation measurement from
- 8 the finished grade around the foundation to the ridge
- 9 of the roof. So I think the 45-foot measurement that
- 10 they've depicted on their plans is accurate, and is
- 11 consistent with the ordinance wording.
- Now, the other items he raises, Mr. Kaufman
- 13 raises with regard to the orientation of the buildings
- 14 might have some merit. I would want to the research
- 15 that a little bit further, but I believe the intent was
- 16 that the primary entrance or the largest facade of the
- 17 building would be faced away from the primary roadway.
- 18 And that would then allow them to use a higher
- 19 elevation.
- The question with regard to repetitive
- 21 design, I have seen that regulation in many ordinances,
- 22 and in every municipality that I've been involved with
- 23 that always seemed to refer to subdivisions or of
- 24 single-family homes. I haven't seen it apply to
- 25 multifamily developments such as this. Those are the

- 1 only comments I have with regard to Mr. Kaufman's
- 2 testimony.
- 3 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you. Any Board
- 4 comments or thoughts? Yes, Dennis, please.
- 5 BOARD MEMBER SANDOW: The comment about
- 6 repetitive design is an interesting one and perhaps
- 7 useful, but as I look at the other multifamily
- 8 developments in town, and there are about five of them,
- 9 six of them, they all feature repetitive design.
- Now, a few of them vary that by moving the
- 11 facade in and out a couple of feet to give the
- 12 appearance of different buildings, but in general they
- 13 are all cookie-cutter developments. And so this is not
- 14 out of line with the developments of the subdivisions
- 15 -- I'm sorry, not subdivisions, the multifamily houses
- 16 that have been approved in the past in this town.
- 17 My second point is a question for Mr.
- 18 Kaufman, and you'll have to forgive me, Bill, for
- 19 asking this, but in terms of design consistent with the
- 20 neighborhood, just exactly surrounding that lot, what
- 21 are the benchmark architectural designs that you would
- 22 like to see copied?
- 23 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Bill, before you go to
- 24 that, we're knocking on 10:30. I'd like to extend if
- 25 possible. I'd like to get beyond his testimony on the

- 1 record here. Anyone want to suggest 10:45 to extend
- 2 the meeting.
- BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: How about just to the
- 4 end of Mr. Kaufman's testimony.
- 5 MAYOR RAE: Well, what if his testimony
- 6 takes us to eleven o'clock. I mean, can we can come
- 7 back to it? Because it looks like we're going to
- 8 another meeting. Can we finish this point in the next
- 9 couple of minutes and then come back to it? Because
- 10 there's a big difference between half past ten and
- 11 eleven o'clock.
- BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: Amen.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HANDS: So should we do that?
- 14 Should we go to 10:45 then give Bill a chance to finish
- off his thoughts and points? I'd like to give the
- opportunity to respond back to the Professionals as
- 17 well. Will at 10:45 be appropriate, or Brendan, are
- 18 you suggesting moving to the next meeting?
- MAYOR RAE: Well, answer this question and
- 20 then cut to -- otherwise we could be here for the
- 21 duration and then we're coming back for another meeting
- 22 anyway.
- 23 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I don't mind if it's the
- 24 Board's pleasure.
- 25 BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: Answer the question.

- 1 We'll see what happens in another two minutes.
- 2 MR. KAUFMAN: Can I give me answer to Mr.
- 3 Sandow's question?
- 4 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Yes, please.
- 5 MR. KAUFMAN: Now, forgive me now, there's
- 6 been some other discussions. Was your question what
- 7 elements I would I like to see copied from Millington?
- 8 BOARD MEMBER SANDOW: Your statement was
- 9 reading from our ordinance about consistency with
- 10 surroundings, and just which buildings are surrounding
- 11 this plot that would be a good pattern for consistency?
- 12 MR. KAUFMAN: So there are two different
- 13 sections and two different pieces of the ordinance.
- 14 One is its intent is to prohibit repetitive design and
- 15 repetition in housing developments, which this clearly
- is. And I'd partly responded to Mr. Lanzafama and say,
- 17 yea, I understand that maybe there are specific
- 18 ordinances in other towns that use this for
- 19 single-family subdivisions but this specific language
- 20 was not written that way. And maybe it was sloppy.
- 21 That's not really for us to interpret, it's for the
- 22 Board to interpret, us being design professionals.
- 23 It's for the Board to interpret. But no, I don't think
- 24 I would like to see anything copied, per se.
- 25 My point was that the applicant submitted a

- 1 plan pulled from a box in a drawer from an architect in
- 2 Virginia, and I asked them if they had been to the site
- 3 and none of them had visited other than looking at some
- 4 Google photographs. So there are some specific things
- 5 in the ordinance and within Section 152.1.B that
- 6 require -- and again, I'll agree that the -- I'll
- 7 concede at least not agree, that some of the language
- 8 is difficult to exactly interpret, but relating
- 9 harmoniously to natural features of the site. To me
- 10 relating harmoniously to the natural features of the
- 11 site does not piling up 20 feet of fill in order to
- 12 level your site because you don't know how to design on
- 13 a slope, and to existing buildings and other
- 14 substantial structures. There are only a few
- 15 substantial structures, if you would call them
- 16 substantial, and they're right in the mix of the
- 17 downtown business district in Millington. So those
- 18 views down Division Ave., I pointed out that Main
- 19 Street effect would have a more calming effect than
- 20 what currently exists with a factory with its back
- 21 turned to it, those are the kind of things that I would
- 22 see, scale, height, density, all those kind of ideas
- 23 come together when you're talking about a section of
- 24 this ordinance.
- 25 My point was that they were ignored and

- 1 this proposal repeating one 10-unite building repeated
- 2 14 times really cannot relate harmoniously to something
- 3 because nothing like this exists in Millington.
- 4 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you. Does that
- 5 answer your question?
- 6 BOARD MEMBER SANDOW: I'll accept Mr.
- 7 Kaufman's answer at its face value.
- 8 CHAIRMAN HANDS: Thank you. Did you have
- 9 any other last minute comments before we consider
- 10 adjourning and picking this up? Because I think
- 11 Michael, our Board Engineer wanted to take a look at a
- 12 couple of things. So I think we're going to come back
- 13 to this anyway. Is that something that we can pick up
- 14 next time or is there anything else?
- 15 MR. KAUFMAN: No. I'm find adjourning with
- 16 my testimony, postponing this to the next time. As I
- 17 said, I'm through with my professional testimony until
- 18 public comment.
- 19 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I just want to make sure,
- 20 Bill, if we come back next time you're okay to step
- 21 forward again just for testimony still should the Board
- 22 Engineer come back with any comments based upon your
- 23 points?
- MR. KAUFMAN: Yes, I'll be available.
- 25 CHAIRMAN HANDS: And Michael, is that okay?

- 1 I don't want to put you -- I think that's what I heard
- 2 you say that you wanted to do?
- 3 MR. LANZAFAMA: Yes. I'll be here and I
- 4 wanted to look into a few of the items that he raised
- 5 with regard to orientation of the buildings.
- 6 CHAIRMAN HANDS: I appreciate that. Thank
- 7 you. Okay. So with that said we'll pick up on that
- 8 point next time out. Deb, do we need to notice or
- 9 anything? What's the procedural points at this time?
- 10 COORDINATOR COONCE: No, the applicant has
- 11 granted us an extension for the month of October. So
- we can carry upon motion and second on the Board
- 13 agreement we can carry to the Board's next meeting on
- 14 October 27th.
- MAYOR RAE: So moved.
- BOARD MEMBER VERLEZZA: Second.
- 17 COORDINATOR COONCE: All those in favor?
- 18 (A voice vote is taken; unanimous vote
- 19 "aye.")
- 20 COORDINATOR COONCE: Any opposed? (No
- 21 response.)
- 22 So the applicant is carried to October 27th
- 23 with no further notice required.
- 24 CHAIRMAN HANDS: At that point we'll finish
- 25 up with public testimony and then to public comments

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    and then towards the end of it. So thank you
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 2
    everybody. Appreciate --
 3
                BOARD MEMBER PFEIL: Motion to adjourn.
                CHAIRMAN HANDS: And I'll ask for a motion
 4
    to adjourn. Thank you. Second somebody?
 5
 6
                MAYOR RAE: Second.
                 COORDINATOR COONCE: All in favor.
                (Voice vote is taken; unanimous vote "aye.)
 8
 9
                 COORDINATOR COONCE: Have a good night
10
    everyone.
11
                CHAIRMAN HANDS: Good night.
12
                 (Whereupon, the hearing on this application
13
    adjourns at 10:38 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, IRIS LA ROSA, a Notary Public and Certified
4	Shorthand Reporter of the State of New Jersey, do
5	hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
6	accurate transcript of the testimony as taken
7	stenographically by and before me at the time, place,
8	and on the date hereinbefore set forth.
9	I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a
10	relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any
11	of the parties to this action, and that I am neither a
12	relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel, and
13	that I am not financially interested in the action.
14	
15	IRIS LA ROSA, CSR, RPR Certificate No. 30XI 00162800
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